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Soviet chief interpreter defects with secret files

By Alice Siegert

Bonn correspondent

Chicago Tribune Press Service

BONN—Victor Nikolayevich Korolyuk, 35, chief Soviet interpreter at the East-West troop reduction talks in Vienna, has defected and is in West Germany under the protection of the German secret service.

Korolyuk is said to have brought with him "a bundle of classified Soviet documents on Eastern negotiating tactics" at the Vienna talks.

The Soviet official evidently left Vienna on Dec. 17, before the negotiations recessed for the Christmas-New Year holiday and the Soviet delegates returned to Moscow. He took a plane to Dusseldorf and contacted airport police, which notified West German authorities.

Federal intelligence agency men then took him to Munich, near the headquarters of the BND, the West German secret police.

IN BONN, a spokesman for the federal government merely confirmed that Korolyuk had entered West Germany.

It is understood that CIA officials have joined in the interrogation of Korolyuk, who is being kept in a "safe place." But

no information was available as to whether the defector has asked for political asylum in West Germany or wants to go to the United States.

About half a dozen Soviet officials and diplomats have defected to the West since the 1960s.

In May, 1980, Ilya Dshirkvelov, an official of the World Health Organization in Geneva and an agent for the Soviet KGB, left his post in the Swiss city and asked for asylum in Britain.

Vladimir Resun, third secretary at the Soviet United Nations mission in Geneva, defected to Britain in July, 1978.

THE TOP-RANKING Soviet official at the UN Secretariat in New York, Arkady Shevchenko, turned himself over to U.S. counterintelligence officers in 1978.

The same year, Imanis Lesinskis, a Soviet UN interpreter and KGB officer, requested political asylum in the U.S.

In August, 1977, Alexander Warshavski, a Soviet chromosome scientist, slipped away from an international congress in Helsinki and took a plane to Britain.

In February, 1964, the Soviet delegate at the Geneva disarmament conference, Yuri Nossenko, defected and asked for asylum in the United States.